AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A meatal occluder for closing a lachrymal meatus of a human eye, comprising a substantially cylindrical body (10) and characterized in that it further comprises at least one fin (13) adapted to take up ~~a folded position~~ an outside position outside the lachrymal meatus, wherein the fin (13) is substantially folded into the cylindrical body (10), and an ~~extended~~ inside position into the lachrymal meatus wherein the fin (13) projects from the cylindrical body (10), said fin (13) being heat-deformable from said ~~folded~~ outside position to said ~~extended~~ inside position.

2. (original) Meatal occluder according to claim 1, characterized in that it is made from a heat-expandable material.

3. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 1, characterized in that it is made from polymers chosen from a group comprising polymers, homopolymers, cross-linked polymers, silicones, acrylic polymers, polyurethanes, hydrocarbonated polymers and a combination of the above polymers.

4. (original) Meatal occluder according to claim 2, characterized in that the heat-expandable material has a vitreous transition temperature from -10°C to 30°C.

5. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 1 characterized in that said fin (13) pivots between said folded position and said extended position about an axis perpendicular to a longitudinal plane of said meatal occluder.

6. (original) Meatal occluder according to claim 5, characterized in that said fin (13) when in said folded position extends in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal direction (X) of the cylindrical body (10).

7. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 5, characterized in that said fin (13) is situated in the vicinity of one end (10b) of said cylindrical body (10), a free end (13a) of said fin (13), when in the folded position, extending in the direction of the opposite end (10a) of said cylindrical body (10).

8. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 1 characterized in that said fin (13) pivots between said folded position and said extended position about an axis parallel to the longitudinal direction (X) of the cylindrical body (10).

9. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 1, characterized in that said fin (13) is situated in the vicinity of a tapered end (10b) of said cylindrical body (10), the opposite end (10a) of said cylindrical body (10) comprising a flange (11).

10. (previously presented) Meatal occluder according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a plurality of fins

(13) regularly distributed on the cylindrical body (10) of said occluder.

11. (new) A meatal occluder for closing a lachrymal meatus of a human eye, comprising:

a substantially cylindrical body having a longitudinal axis; and

at least one fin comprising a heat-deformable material, the at least one fin being positioned to extend from the cylindrical body substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis;

wherein the cylindrical body and the at least one fin are constructed and arranged so that exposure of the heat-deformable material to a heating effect of a human body causes the at least one fin to move from the position of being arranged substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis to a position of projecting outward from the longitudinal axis.

12. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11, wherein the heat-deformable material is a heat-expandable material.

13. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11, wherein the heat-deformable material is a polymer chosen from a group consisting of: polymers, homopolymers, cross-linked polymers, silicones, acrylic polymers, polyurethanes, hydrocarbonated polymers and a combination of the above polymers.

14. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 12, wherein the heat-expandable material has a vitreous transition temperature from -10°C to 30°C.

15. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11, wherein the at least one fin is constructed so that when moving from the position of being arranged substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis to a position of projecting outward from the longitudinal axis caused by exposure of the heat-deformable material to a heating effect of a human body, the at least one fin pivots between said respective positions about an axis perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

16. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 15, wherein the at least one fin is situated in a vicinity of one end of said cylindrical body, a free end of said fin, when in the position of being substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis, extending in a direction of an opposite end of said cylindrical body.

17. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11 characterized in that said fin pivots between said respective positions about an axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of the cylindrical body.

18. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11, wherein the fin is situated in a vicinity of a tapered end of said cylindrical body, an opposite end of said cylindrical body comprising a flange.

19. (new) The meatal occluder according to claim 11, wherein the at least one fin comprises a plurality of said fins regularly distributed on the cylindrical body of said occluder.